GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4489
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2000
REHABILITATION OF VILLAGES OF BORDER AREAS
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of families from the villages of Kupwara district have fled their homes due to heavy shelling by Pakistan during may, 2000;

(b) whether Karnah and Tangdhar have been facing shelling for the last five years and it became intense over the month of May, 2000;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether these people have now shifted to other places; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to rehabilitate them?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)to(e): As per a report received from the State Government, due to heavy shelling from across the border in Karnah Sub-Division in the month of April/May 2000, four persons were killed and some residential houses were damaged. Out of panic, about 281 families comprising around 1000 souls had migrated to Kupwara, Srinagar and Baramullah. The families which migrated had either their own residential alternatives at these locations or temporarily stayed with their relatives. These families were subsequently advised to return as the situation had eased. Later on, these families have either gone back or are putting up with their relatives at Srinagar.

There is a population of about 50,000 comprising of 6300 families in the whole of Karnah Sub-Division and they did not migrate out of the area and projected a demand that they must be provided community bunkers and bunkers for families residing in the area. The construction of 10 community bunkers in Karnah area is under progress.